

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 EUR-25 NEA-14 IO-14

DPW-01 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /169 W

----- 016001

O R 250840Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6135

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

USDEL JEC PARIS

UNCLAS SAIGON 8373

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS MILI VS VN

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON FPJMT

REF: SAIGON 8371

FOLLOWING IS COMPLETE TEXT OF STATEMENT ISSUED BY MISSION
SPOKESMAN TODAY (JUNE 25) FOLLOWING FPJMT MEETING ATTENDED
BY GVN AND US DELS ONLY.

"SAIGON, JUNE 25, 1974 -- THE U.S. MISSION SPOKESMAN TODAY
ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT.

TODAY, ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION WAS

PRESENT AT THE NORMALLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE FOUR PARTY
JOINT MILITARY TEAM, AS WAS THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VIET-NAM, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH VIET-NAM AND THE "PRG"
DID NOT APPEAR.

ONLY LAST TUESDAY WE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE RETURN
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OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND THE "PRG" DELEGATIONS TO THE

FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM AND THE TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION MIGHT SIGNAL A NEW AND MORE CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE ON THEIR PART. THE NUMEROUS INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN BY BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM IN THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM ARE WELL KNOWN. ON JUNE 18 THE PRESENTATION OF THE SPOKESMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM IN THE TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION UNEQUIVOCALLY REAFFIRMED HIS GOVERNMENT'S SINCERE DISIRE FOR PROGRESS TOWARD AN EFFECTIVE CEASE-FIRE.

APPARENTLY TO AVOID ANY DISCUSSION OF THE CEASE-FIRE AND SUBSEQUENT PROGRESS TOWARD FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENTS, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND THE "PRG" HAVE ONCE AGAIN SUSPENDED THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE ORGANIZATIONS SET UP BY THE PARIS AGREEMENTS. BUT WORLD OPINION NOW FULLY UNDERSTANDS THAT HANOI PROPAGANDA CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR SERIOUS AND MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS. SUCH NEGOTIATIONS, IF SERIOUSLY CONDUCTED, CAN BRING A CEASE-FIRE AND PUT AN END TO THE SENSELESS KILLINGS OF CHILDREN AND INNOCENT CIVILIANS. SUCH SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS CAN BRING AN END TO THE DEATHS OF THOUSANDS OF YOUNG MEN OF BOTH THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH WHO, FIFTEEN MONTHS AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENTS, SHOULD NOW BE ENGAGED IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF ALL OF VIET-NAM.

WORLD OPINION SIMPLY WILL NOT ACCEPT THAT DISCUSSION OF A VAST EXTENSION OF PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES IS REALLY THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS. THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE HAVE FULLY RESTORED ALL THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES, INCLUDING THE LIAISON FLIGHT TO LOC NINH. THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE HAVE STATED THAT THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS SHOULD BE A DISCUSSION CONDUCTED SERIOUSLY AND IN GOOD FAITH OF A CEASE-FIRE AND SUBSEQUENT FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENTS. THE UNITED STATES AGREES THAT THIS IS INDEED THE FIRST PRIORITY AND EXPRESSES THE EARNEST HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE AN EARLY RESUMPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION SINCE ONLY BY SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE VIETNAMESE PARTIES CAN A CEASE-FIRE BE IMPLEMENTED.

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WE ALSO DEEPLY REGRET THE INABILITY OF THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM TO GET ON WITH ITS HUMANITARIAN WORK OF DETERMINING THE FATE OF THE MIAS. ON BEHALF OF THEIR FAMILIES, WE ARE DETERMINED TO PERSEVERE IN OUR EFFORTS TO BRING AN END TO THE ANGUISH AND HARDSHIPS WHICH ARE PROLONGED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ABSENCE FROM THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS OF THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM AND WE

EARNESTLY HOPE THAT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND THE "PRG" WILL
SOON RE-JOIN US AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE AND COOPERATE IN A
SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 8 B
OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT."
MARTIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, ARMISTICE, DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, MIA, COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, PEACE TALKS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON08373
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740166-0636
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740616/aaaaamyte.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: SAIGON 8371
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 SEP 2002 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATEMENT ON FPJMT
TAGS: MOPS, MILI, VS, VN, PRG, DRV, FPJMT
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005